## AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A piping structure of an air conditioner having an evaporator, a compressor and a condenser, comprising:

a main piping connecting the evaporator, the compressor and the condenser to each other;

wherein the main piping is branched into at least two branch pipings at a first predetermined location near the compressor and the at least two branch pipings being looped, and the at least two branch pipings are jointed into at least one joint piping.

2. (Original) The piping structure according to claim 1, wherein the branch pipings are provided to at least one of discharge and intake pipings connected to the compressor.

3. (Canceled).

4. (Currently Amended) The piping structure according to claim [[3]] 1, wherein the branch pipings are jointed again at a second predetermined location away from the ~~first predetermined location~~ compressor.

5. (Original) The piping structure according to claim 1, wherein the branch pipings have a same effective sectional area.

6. (Original) ~~The piping structure according to claim 1,~~ A piping structure of an air conditioner having an evaporator, a compressor and a condenser, comprising:

a main piping connecting the evaporator, the compressor and the condenser to each other;

wherein the main piping is branched into at least two branch pipings and the at least two branch pipings are jointed into at least one joint piping, and

wherein the branch pipings are provided with a means for releasing a force generated during compression at a predetermined location.

7. (Original) The piping structure according to claim 6, wherein the means for releasing a force generated during compression is a lumped mass element of an elastic material, which is provided on a lower portion of at least one looped branch piping.

8. (Original) The piping structure according to claim 7, wherein the lumped mass element is provided at a lower end of at least one of the looped intake and discharge pipings of the compressor.

9. (Previously Presented) The piping structure according to claim 1, wherein the main piping comprising at least two branch parts when the main piping is branched, and at least two joints parts.

10. (Original) The piping structure according to claim 9, wherein the joint parts are jointed into a second joint part.

11. (Previously Presented) The piping structure according to claim 1, wherein the branch pipings are bent differently from each other.

12. (Original) The piping structure according to claim 11, wherein the branch pipings are located on an XY plane, a YZ plane and a ZX plane, respectively.

13. (Original) The piping structure according to claim 11, wherein the branch pipings are located on at least two of an XY plane, a YZ plane and a ZX plane.

14. (New) The piping structure according to claim 6, wherein the main piping comprises at least two branch parts when the main piping is branched, and at least two joint parts.

15. (New) The piping structure according to claim 14, wherein the joint parts are joined at a second joint part.

16. (New) The piping structure according to claim 6, wherein the branch pipings are bent differently from each other.

17. (New) The piping structure according to claim 16, wherein the branch pipings are located on an XY plane, a YZ plane and a ZX plane, respectively.

18. (New) The piping structure according to claim 16, wherein the branch pipings are located on at least two of an XY plane, a YZ plane and a ZX plane.